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C E N T R A L I N T E L L I G E N C E A G E N C Y

4 January 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Allan Evans (OIR)
Colonel H. J. Lemley, Jr., USA (G-2)
Captain B. E. Wiggin, USN (ONI)
Colonel Willis B. Sawyer, USAF (AFOIN-2B2)
Colonel Charles H. Dayhuff, USA (JIG)

SUBJECT : NIE 11-3-56: Communist Intentions and Capabilities in Berlin

1. The IAC representatives on 3 January, concurred by telephone in the attached terms of reference. Please note the addition of one question under III. 2. at the request of JIG.

2. All contributions are due by 20 January. Each agency is to contribute according to its competence to do so.

Paul A. Borel

PAUL A. BOREL
Deputy Assistant Director
National Estimates

Distribution "B"

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

4 January 1955

SUBJECT: TERMS OF REFERENCE: NIE 11-3-56: COMMUNIST INTENTIONS AND
CAPABILITIES IN BERLIN

THE PROBLEM

To estimate Communist intentions and capabilities in Berlin.

QUESTIONS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM

I. THE PRESENT SITUATION IN BERLIN

- A. Describe briefly the physical situation in Berlin. What Western, Soviet, and German forces are deployed in and about Greater Berlin? What means of access are available to Western forces? How vulnerable is West Berlin economically to closing of transport routes from West Germany? For example, what is the current status of stockpiles?

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- B. Has the granting of sovereignty to West and East Germany altered the legal situation based on earlier Four Power agreements? To what extent, if any, have the GDR and the USSR thus far challenged Western rights in Berlin based on those agreements?

II. COMMUNIST OBJECTIVES IN BERLIN

- A. In the light of probable Soviet policy in Germany, what are the USSR's probable long-term objectives with respect to Berlin?
- B. Has recent Soviet behavior thrown any light on the USSR's shorter term objectives? What indications have there been? What do they imply?

III. COMMUNIST CAPABILITIES IN BERLIN

- A. What range of actions could the USSR undertake to achieve the above objectives? Discuss each specific action in as much detail as feasible citing Communist resources to undertake it, and the likely impact if successful.

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- B. What are Communist capabilities with respect to Berlin beyond those associated with the preceding objectives?

IV. PROBABLE COMMUNIST COURSES OF ACTION

- A. What limiting factors such as risk of war or Western capability to take countermasures would affect the exercise of Soviet capabilities in Berlin?
- B. In the light of the above objectives and capabilities, and bearing in mind broader considerations of over-all Soviet policy, what are the likely Communist courses of action affecting Berlin? What are probable Communist intentions with respect to the legal status of East Berlin?

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